WESTMINSTER ABBEY

THE ORDER OF SERVICE AND CEREMONY OF THE

OATH AND INSTALLATION OF THE GREAT MASTER AND KNIGHTS GRAND CROSS

OF

THE MOST HONOURABLE ORDER OF THE BATH

IN

THE LADY CHAPEL OF KING HENRY VII THE CHAPEL OF THE ORDER

IN THE ORDER'S 300TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

11.15 a.m. Friday 16th May 2025

THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY

know it today was created by Letters because of the enlargement of the Order Patent passed under the Great Seal on in 1815, and the installation ceremony 18th May 1725, the origins of the was formally abolished in 1847. It was ceremony, which takes place in the revived in 1913 in the modified form Henry VII Chapel, can be traced back to which continues in use to the present. the 14th Century. A pamphlet of that Today the Knights and Dames are time refers to Knights receiving 'a installed as a group and do not actually Degree of Knighthood by the Bath' and occupy their own Stalls during the the knighting installation. describes part of ceremony thus:

un-girt him and shall offer his sword to the Altar by the Bishop'.

The original installation ceremony was based largely on that used at the Coronation of Henry V on 9th April 1413. As at the Coronation, candidates had to appear in the Prince's Chamber in the Palace of Westminster, where they were required to take their bath and were put to bed to prepare them for a long night's vigil. From 1725 until its formal abolition in 1815, the vigil took place in the Order's designated chapel, the Chapel of Henry VII. This was followed by an investiture and then the installation. After taking the Oath to honour God, love the King, and defend widows and orphans, Knights were seated in their Stalls.

In practice only the actual 'installing' of a new Knight took place (i.e. placing him in his Stall).

Although the Order of the Bath as we Even this fell into abeyance after 1812,

The offering of gold and silver 'The Knight shall be led into the represents partly a surrendering of Chapel with melody and there he shall worldly treasure and partly a recognition by the new Knight or Dame of their God and Holy Church to be laid upon duty to provide for the maintenance of Christ's Church on earth. In today's ceremony, the gold is represented by a pair of gold Half-Guineas of King George I: struck between 1725 and 1727. The silver is represented by a silver Crown and silver Shilling: both 1723 with the head of King George I. The coins used are kindly provided by Spink.

> The offering of the sword, a memory of the days of mediaeval knighthood, is a reminder to each new Knight or Dame that they are to use it first to the glory of God and in the defence of the Gospel.

> The Admonition, which has been used at installation services since 1725, is written in the language of mediaeval devotion, and is there to remind the Knight or Dame of their duty and responsibility: to the Faith, to The Sovereign, and to the defenceless and helpless.

The Stalls of the late Knights Grand Cross, and the Knights who succeed them, are:

DECEASED STALL HOLDERS	STALL No	NEW STALL HOLDERS
Field Marshal Sir John Chapple	North 14	General the Lord Houghton of Richmond
Field Marshal the Lord Inge	North 21	General Sir Peter Wall
General the Lord Ramsbotham	North 23	Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Pulford
Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce	South 14	General Sir Nick Carter
Sir Anthony Battishill	North 4	The Right Honourable the Lord Janvrin
General Sir Mike Jackson	South 23	Admiral Sir Philip Jones
General Sir John Waters	South 15	Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier

Members of the congregation are requested kindly to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

The whole of the Church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle KCVO MBE, Dean of Westminster.

The service is sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey, conducted by Andrew Nethsingha, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Sub-Organist.

Fanfares are sounded by trumpeters of the Band of the Household Cavalry, under the direction of Trumpet Major Julian Sandford MVO.

Fanfares are sounded by trumpeters of the Band of His Majesty's Royal Marines, under the direction of Major Pete Woffenden.

The Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment play under the direction of Wing Commander Richard A Murray, Principal Director of Music (RAF).

Before the service the band plays: Canterbury Chorale Rhapsody on the Minstrel Boy A Perthshire Majesty Marche Militaire Françoise Rhosymedre Be thou my vision

Paul Greally, Assistant Organist, plays:

Sonata in D Op 65 no 5 Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue in C BWV 564 Chorale prelude *on* St. Anne's Jan van der Roost (b 1956) Robert Farnon (1917–2005) Samuel Hazo (b 1966) Camille Saint-Saens (1835–1921) Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) David Gillingham (b 1947)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) Charles Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

THE ARRIVAL

The Choir moves to places on the Quire Screen. All remain seated.

The Procession of Knights & Dame Grand Cross moves to the South Nave Aisle. All remain seated.

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, Great Master of the Order, is received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster at the Great West Door, and is conducted to the Chapel of Saint George, where the Officers are introduced. All remain seated.

A fanfare is sounded. All stand.

His Majesty The King, Sovereign of the Order, is received and is conducted to the Chapel of Saint George.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

A fanfare is sounded. All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

during which the Collegiate Procession moves to places in the Sacrarium, followed by the Procession of the Order to places in Quire

PRAISE to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation, O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation: come ye who hear, brothers and sisters draw near, praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;

hast thou not seen, all that is needful hath been granted in what he ordaineth? Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:

ponder anew, all the Almighty can do, He who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging, who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,

biddeth them cease, turneth their fury to peace, whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

The choir sings: Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,

fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee, then to thy need, he like a mother doth speed, spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

All sing: Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding, who, when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding, sheddeth his light, chasing the horrors of night, saints with his mercy surrounding.

> Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him! Let the Amen sound from his people again: gladly for ay we adore him.

melody from Praxis Pietatis Melica 1668 arranged by James O'Donnell (b 1961) Joachim Neander (1650-1680) translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878) and Rupert Davies (1909–1994)

THE PROCESSION OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST PETER

Beadle

The King's Almsmen

The Cross of Westminster

Verger

The Reverend Robert Latham Minor Canon & Precentor The Reverend Helena Bickley-Percival Minor Canon & Sacrist

Paul Baumann Esq CBE LVO Receiver General

Canons' Verger

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey Canon Theologian & Almoner The Reverend Mark Birch MVO Canon Rector

The Right Reverend Anthony Ball Canon Steward & Archdeacon of Westminster

The Reverend David Stanton Sub-Dean and Canon Treasurer carrying the Bible in his right hand

THE PROCESSION OF KNIGHTS AND DAME GRAND CROSS

Knights Grand Cross to take the Oath

General Sir Mark Carleton-Smith GCB CBE DL The Right Honourable the Lord Young of Old Windsor GCB GCVO

Sir Tom Scholar GCB

Knights Grand Cross to be installed

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier GCB CBE DFC Admiral Sir Philip Jones GCB DL

Senior Knights & Dame Grand Cross

Professor Dame Sally Davies GCB DBE

Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC DL

General the Lord Houghton of Richmond GCB CBE DL

> Sir David Normington GCB

Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope GCB OBE DL

Admiral Sir Jonathon Band GCB DL

The Right Honourable the Lord Janvrin GCB GCVO QSO

> Sir David Omand GCB

Sir Hayden Phillips GCB DL

The Lord Wilson of Dinton GCB

General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie GCB OBE DL

Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Alcock GCB KBE

The Right Honourable the Lord Butler of Brockwell KG GCB CVO

Sir Peter Middleton GCB

Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Pulford GCB CBE DL

General Sir Peter Wall GCB CBE DL

The Lord O'Donnell GCB

General the Lord Richards of Herstmonceux GCB CBE DSO DL

> General the Lord Dannatt GCB CBE MC DL

Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy GCB CBE DSO

Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Stirrup KG GCB AFC

The Right Honourable Admiral the Lord West of Spithead GCB DSC

Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh GCB

Sir Nigel Wicks GCB CVO CBE

Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns GCB KCVO CBE

> The Lord Burns GCB

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Benjamin Bathurst GCB DL

Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine GCB GBE

Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Craig of Radley GCB OBE The Dean's Verger

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Segrave The Deputy Secretary

Major General Susan Ridge CB The Lady Usher of the Scarlet Rod David White Esq The Genealogist

Major General James Gordon CB CBE The Registrar & Secretary Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Dalton GCB The Bath King of Arms

The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle KCVO MBE Dean of Westminster carrying the Oath and the Admonition fairly engrossed upon Vellum

> His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales KG KT GCB ADC *The Great Master*

THE SOVEREIGN

The Honourable Guy Tryon Page of Honour

Ian Patrick Esq Private Secretary to The Prince of Wales The Right Honourable Sir Clive Alderton KCVO Principal Private Secretary to The King

Squadron Leader Michael Reynolds Equerry to The Prince of Wales

Major Jeremy Russell Standard Bearer, Gentlemen at Arms Commander William Thornton Equerry to The King

Major Rupert Lendrum Lieutenant, Gentlemen at Arms

Brigadier Andrew Hughes CBE Ensign, Yeomen of the Guard

Yeomen of the Guard

The Sovereign & The Great Master proceed to their Stalls.

All remain standing. The Choir sings

EXSURGAT DEUS

L ET God arise, and let his enemies be scattered : let them also that hate him flee before him. But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God : let them also be merry and joyful. O sing unto God, and sing praises unto his Name : magnify him that rideth upon the heavens, as it were upon an horse; praise him in his Name JAH, and rejoice before him. He is a Father of the fatherless, and defendeth the cause of the widows : even God in his holy habitation. Sing unto God, O ye kingdoms of the earth : O sing praises unto the Lord; Who sitteth in the heavens over all from the beginning : lo, he doth send out his voice, yea, and that a mighty voice. Ascribe ye the power to God over Israel : his worship, and strength is in the clouds. O God, wonderful art thou in thy holy places : even the God of Israel; he will give strength and power unto his people; blessed be God. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

George J Elvey (1816–93)

Psalm 68: 1, 3–5, 32–35

All sit. The Dean reads

THE EPISTLE

R EJOICE in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Thanks be to God

Philippians 4: 4–8

THE LESSER LITANY

The Lord be with you; and with thy spirit. Let us pray.

All kneel or sit

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Give the King thy judgements, O God: and thy righteousness unto the King's son.

Make thou his officers peace, and his exactors righteousness.

Let all his people praise thee, O God: yea, let all his people praise thee.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart.

Wash our hands in innocency, O Lord: and so let us go to thine altar.

The Precentor continues:

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we beseech thee to pour thy blessing upon our Sovereign Lord King Charles and upon all those who are called to serve him by sea or land or air, at home or abroad. Grant unto the members of this Most Honourable Order of the Bath that they may ever contend valiantly for the faith, succour the defenceless, protect the weak, and, in the maintenance of their Sovereign's right and honour, constantly uphold the cause of equity and justice among all his peoples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WE beseech thee, O Lord our God, to write thy law upon the hearts of thy people that it may bind the nations also in a covenant which cannot be broken; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Douglas Guest (1916–1996) Organist of Westminster Abbey 1963–1981 All stand as the Minor Canons and the Canons move eastwards to their appointed places through the South Lantern and Ambulatory; the Minor Canons and Canons, on reaching the Chapel of the Order, stand at the West End.

The Sovereign, preceded by the Dean \mathcal{O} The Great Master, and accompanied by the Knights and Dame Grand Cross and the Officers of the Order, leaves Quire and passes through the South Lantern and Ambulatory. The Procession moves eastwards to the Chapel of the Order.

During the Procession to the Lady Chapel of King Henry VII, the band plays:

Pomp and Circumstances Military March No 4 Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

During the Oath and Installation Ceremony in the Chapel, the choir sings:

CLAP your hands, all ye people : shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible : he is a great King over all the earth. God is gone up with a shout : the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God : sing praises unto our King. For God is the King of all the earth : sing ye praises every one that hath understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen : God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness. Sing praises unto our King : sing praises.

Ralph Vaughan Williams

LMIGHTY and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, $\mathbf{1}$ $\mathbf{1}$ and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)

Collect for the third Sunday after Epiphany

IFT up your heads, O ye, gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the L King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759) from Messiah HWV 56

Psalm 47: 1–2, 5–8

Psalm 24: 7-10

THE CEREMONIES

The Knights and Dame Grand Cross and Officers, on entering the Chapel, move to their appointed places and remain standing.

The Great Master, on entering the Chapel, is conducted by the Bath King of Arms to his position in front of his Stall, and remains standing.

The Sovereign, on entering the Chapel, is conducted by the Dean to his position in front of his Stall, and remains standing.

Bath King of Arms then bows to those Knights Grand Cross to be installed, who ascend to their Stalls and remain standing.

All in the chapel remain standing; those in other parts of the Abbey sit.

The Bath King of Arms, with the Lady Usher of the Scarlet Rod on his right, and followed by the Dean and the Sub-Dean holding the Bible, proceeds to the middle of the Chapel, where all four bow to The Sovereign.

The Sovereign, being attended by the Dean and Bath King of Arms carrying the Book of Statutes on a cushion, proceeds to The Great Master. The Bath King of Arms presents the Book of Statutes to The Sovereign who delivers it to The Great Master, and the Dean administers the Oath to him, the Sub-Dean holding the Bible. The Sovereign thereupon places The Great Master in his Stall, and he, rising up, makes his double reverences. The Sovereign, attended as before, returns to his Stall and sits. All the Knights & Dame Grand Cross, except those to be installed or to take the Oath, sit down.

The Great Master descends from his Stall and, attended by the Dean, proceeds to the Senior Knight Grand Cross to be installed, Admiral Sir Philip Jones. The Dean then performs the Act of Installation by seating the Knights in the Stalls, during which the Knights concerned bow to The Great Master, and are then seated.

The Great Master, attended by the Dean, proceeds to the Senior Knight Grand Cross to take the Oath, Sir Tom Scholar. The Great Master delivers the Book of Statutes to the Senior Knight Grand Cross to take the Oath. The Dean administers the Oath to the Knights, who repeat the words of the Oath simultaneously, the Sub-Dean holding the Bible.

The Oath is administered in these words:

YOU shall honour God above all things; you shall be steadfast in the Faith of Christ; you shall love The King, your Sovereign Lord, and him and his right defend to your power; you shall defend the innocent, the vulnerable, and orphans in their rights and shall suffer no extortion as far as you can prevent it; and of as great honour be this Order unto you as ever it was to any of your progenitors, or others.

The Knights who have taken the Oath bow to The Great Master and remain standing.

The Great Master, preceded by the Dean and the Lady Usher of the Scarlet Rod, returns to his Stall and sits. The Dean and the Lady Usher of the Scarlet Rod return to their places at the Altar.

The Bath King of Arms and the Lady Usher of the Scarlet Rod wait upon The Sovereign, who proceeds to the Altar and makes his offering of gold and silver. He then returns, attended as before, to his Stall, and sits.

The Registrar & Secretary and the Genealogist wait upon The Great Master, who proceeds to the Altar and makes his offering of gold and silver.

Each Knight who has taken the Oath turns towards the Altar, standing behind The Great Master. The Great Master draws his sword, while the remaining Knights who have taken the Oath partially draw their swords and hold them forward, hilt towards the Altar. The Great Master offers his sword to the Dean, who receives it and lays it upon the Altar. He then redeems it of the Dean, who restores it with the Admonition:

I EXHORT and admonish you to use your Sword to the Glory of God, the Defence of the Gospel, the maintenance of your Sovereign's Right and Honour, and of all Equity and Justice to the utmost of your Power.

All Knights who have taken the Oath return the sword to the scabbard in unison with The Great Master.

The ceremonies in the Chapel being concluded, the Procession returns to Quire through the North Ambulatory, and Lantern.

As the Procession enters the North Lantern, a fanfare is sounded. All stand.

The band plays:

Nimrod from 'Enigma' Variations Op 36

Edward Elgar

The Minor Canons and Canons return to the Sacrarium; the Knights and Dame Grand Cross and Officers move to their places in Quire. The Dean moves to his place in the Sacrarium. The Great Master moves to his Stall in Quire. The Sovereign moves to his Stall in Quire.

All remain standing. The choir sings

JUBILATE DEO

O BE JOYFUL in the Lord, all ye lands : serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God : it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise : be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting : and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Benjamin Britten (1913–76)

Psalm 100

All sit. The Dean gives the Address.

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

A LMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Dean says:

ET us, on this Anniversary, give thanks to almighty God for three hundred years of distinguished service to Crown and Commonwealth rendered by the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear our prayer: and let our cry come unto thee.

A LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by thy holy Apostle has taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: We bless thy holy name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, who being members of this Most Honourable Order of the Bath have left to us the fair pattern of valiant and true Chivalry. We beseech thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Collect of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath

MAY the merciful Lord grant unto them, with all the faithful, peace, light and life everlasting. Amen.

O LORD God, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same, until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through him who for the finishing of thy work laid down his life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sir Francis Drake (c 1540–1596)

GOD save our Gracious Sovereign, and all the Members of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. Amen.

All stand.

The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

GOD grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all people, peace and concord, and to us sinners life everlasting: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

All sing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

GOD save our gracious King, long live our noble King, God save The King. Send him victorious, happy, and glorious, long to reign over us: God save The King.

Thy choicest gifts in store on him be pleased to pour, long may he reign. May he defend our laws, and ever give us cause to sing with heart and voice: God save The King

arranged by Gordon Jacob (1895–1984)

All sing

THE HYMN

during which the Collegiate Procession, followed by the Procession of the Order, moves through the North Lantern, the North Quire, and Nave Aisles to the west end of the Abbey. The Knights and Dame Grand Cross continue through the South Nave and Quire Aisles to the Cloister Door.

	FOR all the Saints who from their labours rest, who thee by faith before the world confess'd, thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest. Alleluia!
	Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; thou in the darkness drear their one true Light. Alleluia!
	O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold, fight as the saints who nobly fought of old, and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia!
The choir sings:	O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia!
All sing:	And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph-song, and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia!
	The golden evening brightens in the west, soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest: sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest. Alleluia!
	But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day; the Saints triumphant rise in bright array: the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia!

William Walsham How (1823–1897)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

After the service, the band plays:

Finale *from* Enigma Variations Op 36 Aurora Borealis

Edward Elgar Rossano Galante (b 1967)

The Bells of the Abbey are rung.

Members of the congregation are requested to remain in their places until invited to move by the stewards.